

To the House of Commons in Parliament Assembled

We, the undersigned Canadians or residents of Canada draw attention of the House of Commons to the following:

THAT representatives of the Canadian government are participating in negotiations of the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA);

THAT traditional definitions of counterfeiting involve passing something off fraudulently or deceptively, usually being dishonest about the origins or content of something;

THAT ACTA is being negotiated in secret, without public input.

THAT ACTA has claimed to be focused on counterfeiting, but leaked contents make clear this is primarily a copyright treaty with origins from companies who see new media such as the Internet as a threat to their traditional business models;

THAT Canada already has a "one proven strike" law with the currently excessively high statutory damages, and that "three strikes" provisions are intended to enable severe punishment without requiring proof of infringement;

THAT it is an attack on the basic property rights of technology owners to have digital locks applied to technology without the owner holding the keys;

THAT audiences of digital content should be able to access content with the technology of their choice, Canada should not embrace anti-competitive practices by legalizing or legally protecting copyright holders imposing choices on audiences;

THAT the Conservative government included in their 2006 election platform that "a Conservative government will place international treaties before Parliament for ratification."

THAT while signing a treaty is to ratification as dating is to marriage, some parliamentarians believe that signing a treaty creates an obligation for Canada to ratify;

THEREFORE, your petitioners call upon Parliament to table ACTA in parliament before Canada makes any gestures which any MP would believe creates an obligation for Canada.

This may include tabling and studying at committee drafts of the treaty before the next meeting, as well as a full debate in the house before signing.

The government should table any directives to the trade negotiators.

The government should commit to full public consultations on the ACTA treaty alone, separate from any other domestic policy issues, before and after tabling any enabling legislation.

The government should not create punishments for alleged or proven infringement that are disproportionate to the harm by any individual potential infringer, such as locking technology owners out of their own technology or severing Internet connections

Name (print)	Signature	City, Province and postal code

For more details, see <http://www.digital-copyright.ca/petition/acta>

Send to: **ACTA petition**, 305 Southcrest Private, Ottawa, ON K1V 2B7